

REMARKS

In response to the non-final Office Action mailed February 3, 2011, Applicants submit this response and claim amendments.

Status of Claims

By this amendment, claims 4, 5, 7, 15 and 25 are canceled and claims 1-3, 6, 16 and 17 are amended. New claim 26 is added. No new matter is added in claim 26 as it is supported by the specification as filed. Claims 1-3, 6, 13-14, 16-20, 24 and 26 are pending.

Election/Restrictions

Applicants request rejoinder of the withdrawn method claims 13, 16-20 and 24 upon a finding of allowable subject matter in the claims of elected Group I.

Claim Rejections 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 4, and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,719,055 to Cooper (hereinafter Cooper). Claim 4 is canceled, rendering moot its rejection.

The amendments to the claims render moot the rejection of claims 1 and 22, as Cooper does not disclose all the elements of the claims, as amended. Applicants respectfully assert that the rejection has been overcome and request its withdrawal.

Claim Rejections 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 2, 3, 6, 7, and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Cooper, as applied to Claims 1, 4, and 22 above, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,693,508 to Chang (hereinafter Chang). Claim 7 is canceled, rendering moot its rejection.

The amendments to the claims render moot the rejection of claims 2, 3, 6, and 14, as Cooper in combination with Chang does not teach, suggest or provide motivation to derive

all the elements of the claims. Applicants respectfully assert that the rejection has been overcome and request its withdrawal.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that the foregoing is a full and complete response to the Office Action mailed February 3, 2011. This response is timely filed in view of the accompanying petition for a three month extension of time and the required fee. If the Examiner believes that any informalities remain in the case that may be corrected by Examiner's amendment, or that there are any other issues that can be resolved by a telephone interview, a telephone call to the undersigned attorney at (404) 745-2470 or to Kathryn H. Wade, Ph.D. at (404) 541-6662 is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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